

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): ~~Improvements to couplings~~ A coupling for a tooth ~~the~~ teeth of earth-moving machines, ~~comprising of the type which comprise~~ comprising projecting lugs on the tooth ~~that can be coupled in~~ configured to couple with matching seatings of ~~a the~~ tooth holder and a transverse seating for a pin, ~~characterized in that~~ the lugs of the tooth longitudinally have stepped guides on ~~their~~ upper and lower edges of the lugs and which continue in an ~~the~~ area of attack in widened abutment regions to obtain greater reinforcement, combined ~~being combined~~ with matching profiles of said stepped guides and widened regions in a ~~the~~ body of the tooth holder and with an internal projecting abutment arranged in at least one of said lugs, ~~capable of being~~ configured to be guided in an ~~the~~ internal part of a corresponding straight guide of the tooth holder, said abutment, after ~~the~~ mounting of the tooth in the tooth holder, ~~being~~ arranged ~~such as~~ to retain the pin, ~~which is~~ the pin disposed in a pin seating provided in a generally vertical arrangement in the body of the tooth holder.

2. (currently amended): ~~Improvements~~ The coupling according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the widened abutment regions have a curved shape.

3. (currently amended): ~~Improvements~~ The coupling according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the widened abutment regions are in ~~a~~ the shape of an inclined plane.

4. (currently amended): ~~Improvements~~ The coupling according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the widened regions are in ~~a~~ the shape of a straight step.

5.-6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended): ~~Improvements~~ The coupling according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the lugs of the tooth ~~teeth~~ have transversely a flat or curved shape.

8. (currently amended): ~~Improvements~~ The coupling according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the straight guide ~~or guides of the nose~~ of the tooth holder is formed on a nose of the tooth holder; for the internal abutment ~~or abutments~~ of the lugs of the tooth, and extend for a length shorter than ~~a~~ the total length of said nose of the tooth holder, in order to obtain greater mechanical strength.

9. (currently amended): ~~Improvements~~ The coupling according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the straight guide ~~or guides of the nose~~ of the tooth holder is

formed on a nose of the tooth holder for the internal abutment or abutments of the lugs of the tooth and extend ~~through~~ as far as a ~~the~~ rear end of said nose with its open end.

10. (currently amended): ~~Improvements~~ The coupling according to claim 1, ~~characterized by the~~ comprising an arrangement of an inlet chamfer in an ~~the~~ opening for introduction of the pin, in order to improve ~~the~~ mounting and disassembly of the pin ~~latter~~.

11. (canceled).